



FEB 21 1990



# GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMINATION

## English 30

### Part A: Written Response

### January 1990

**Alberta**  
EDUCATION

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**GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMINATION  
ENGLISH 30**

**Part A: Written Response**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

This examination consists of TWO assignments. Read the **WHOLE** examination before you begin to write. Follow instructions carefully. Complete **BOTH** assignments.

**TOTAL TIME:** 2½ hours

Budget your time carefully.

Page  
Number

<b>MINOR ASSIGNMENT:</b>	Personal Response to Literature	2-4
	Suggested time: approximately ½ hour	
	Value: 30% of this examination	
<b>MAJOR ASSIGNMENT:</b>	Literature Composition	10
	Suggested time: approximately 1½ to 2 hours	
	Value: 70% of this examination	

You may use a nonelectronic English language dictionary and a thesaurus.

Space is provided for Planning and Drafting and for Revised Work.

Please write your revised work in blue or black ink.

**DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE  
IN THE TEST BOOKLET.**

**JANUARY 1990**

## Instructions

1. Read "The White Knight" carefully and thoughtfully before you start the writing assignments.
2. Read BOTH the Minor and Major assignments before you start writing.

### THE WHITE KNIGHT

Once upon a time there was a knight who lived in a little castle on the edge of the forest of Life. One day this knight looked in the mirror and saw that he was a White Knight.

"Lo!" he cried. "I am a White Knight and therefore represent good. I am the champion of virtue and honour and justice, and I must ride into the forest and slay the Black Knight, who is evil."

So the White Knight mounted his snow-white horse and rode into the forest to find the Black Knight and slay him in single combat.

Many miles he rode the first day, without so much as a glimpse of the Black Knight. The second day he rode even farther, still without sighting the ebony armour of mischief. Day after day he rode, deeper and deeper into the forest of Life, searching thicket and gully and even the tree-tops. The Black Knight was nowhere to be seen.

Yet the White Knight found many signs of the Black Knight's presence. Again and again he passed a village in which the Black Knight had struck — a baker's shop robbed, a horse stolen, an innkeeper's daughter ravished. But always he just missed catching the doer of these deeds.

At last the White Knight had spent all his gold in the cause of his search. He was tired and hungry. Feeling his strength ebbing, he was forced to steal some buns from a bakeshop. His horse went lame, so that he was forced to replace it, silently and by darkness, with another white horse in somebody's stable. And when he stumbled, faint and exhausted, into an inn, the innkeeper's daughter gave him her bed, and because he was the White Knight in shining armour, she gave him her love, and when he was strong enough to leave the inn she cried bitterly because she could not understand that he had to go and find the Black Knight and slay him.

Through many months, under hot sun, over frosty paths, the White Knight pressed on his search, yet all the knights he met in the forest were, like himself, fairly white. They were knights of varying shades of whiteness, depending on how long they, too, had been hunting the Black Knight.

Some were sparkling white. These had just started hunting that day and irritated the White Knight by innocently asking directions to the nearest Black Knight.

Others were tattle-tale grey. And still others were so grubby, horse and rider, that the mirror in their castle would never have recognized them.

Yet the White Knight was shocked the day a knight of gleaming whiteness confronted him suddenly in the forest and with a wild whoop thundered towards him with levelled lance. The White Knight barely had time to draw his sword and, ducking under the deadly steel, plunge it into the attacker's breast.

The White Knight dismounted and kneeled beside his mortally wounded assailant, whose visor had fallen back to reveal blond curls and a youthful face. He heard the words, whispered in anguish: "Is evil then triumphant?" And holding the dead knight in his arms

*Continued*

he saw that beside the bright armour of the youth his own, besmirched by the long quest, looked black in the darkness of the forest.

His heart heavy with horror and grief, the White Knight who was white no more buried the boy, then slowly stripped off his own soiled mail, turned his grimy horse free to the forest, and stood naked and alone in the quiet dusk.

Before him lay a path which he slowly took, which led him to his castle on the edge of the forest. He went into the castle and closed the door behind him. He went to the mirror and saw that it no more gave back the White Knight, but only a middle-aged, naked man, a man who had stolen and ravished and killed in pursuit of evil.

Thereafter when he walked abroad from his castle he wore a coat of simple colours, a cheerful motley, and never looked for more than he could see. And his hair grew slowly white, as did his fine, full beard, and the people all around called him the Good White Knight.

*Eric Nicol*



## MINOR ASSIGNMENT

### Personal Response to Literature (Suggested time: approximately ½ hour)

The allegory of the White Knight is an illustration of the process of self-discovery. In his attempt to fulfil his role, the White Knight discovers that he is not what he thought he was.

Choose a brief quotation from “The White Knight” that you can associate with self-discovery and explain why it is meaningful to you.

### PLANNING AND DRAFTING

There is additional space for Planning and Drafting on pages 6 and 8.

## REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

## Minor Assignment

### Personal Response to Literature

#### PLANNING AND DRAFTING

There is additional space for Planning and Drafting on page 8.



## REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

There is additional space for Revised Work on page 9.

## **Minor Assignment**

### **Personal Response to Literature**

#### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**

## Minor Assignment

## Personal Response to Literature

## REVISED WORK

[illegible]



## MAJOR ASSIGNMENT

### Literature Composition (Suggested time: approximately 1½ to 2 hours)

Self-discovery involves the process by which individuals perceive the truth about themselves and their place in the world. A literary example of the process of self-discovery is “The White Knight,” in which Eric Nicol uses symbol and irony to suggest the idea that experience provides insight.

**Write a composition based on other literature you have studied that examines self-discovery. What idea does the author develop regarding self-discovery? Provide specific details from the literature you have chosen that will support and develop your controlling idea.**

### Guidelines for Writing

- **CHOOSE** your selection from relevant short stories, novels, plays, poems, other literature, or films that you have studied in your high school English classes. You may choose to discuss more than one selection.
- **FOCUS** your composition on the topic. Provide only those details that support your controlling idea. You may wish to consider discussing the significance of the author’s use of such elements as character development, setting, irony, contrast, conflict, imagery, symbol, etc.
- **ORGANIZE** your composition so that your ideas are clearly and coherently developed.

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

### INITIAL PLANNING

Space is provided here for you to identify the literature you plan to use and to state your controlling idea or thesis.

Author and Title

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Controlling Idea  
or Thesis  
Statement

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There is additional space for Planning and Drafting on even-numbered pages.

## **Major Assignment**

## **Literature Composition**

### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**



## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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There is additional space for Revised Work on odd-numbered pages.

## **Major Assignment**

## **Literature Composition**

### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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**Major Assignment**

**Literature Composition**

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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**Major Assignment**

**Literature Composition**

PLANNING AND DRAFTING



## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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## **Major Assignment**

### **Literature Composition**

#### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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## **Major Assignment**

### **Literature Composition**

#### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**



## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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**Major Assignment**

**Literature Composition**

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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## **Major Assignment**

### **Literature Composition**

#### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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## **Major Assignment**

### **Literature Composition**

#### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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## **Major Assignment**

### **Literature Composition**

#### **PLANNING AND DRAFTING**

## Major Assignment

## Literature Composition

## REVISED WORK

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## CREDITS

Eric Nicol. "The White Knight" from *Shall We Join the Ladies* (McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited). Reprinted by permission of McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited.





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ENGLISH 30: PART A

(LAST NAME)

NAME:

(FIRST NAME)

DATE OF BIRTH:

SEX: ☐

Y M D

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

(Apt./Street/Ave./P.O. Box)

(Village/Town/City)

(Postal Code)

SCHOOL CODE:

SCHOOL:

SIGNATURE:

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ENGLISH 30: PART A